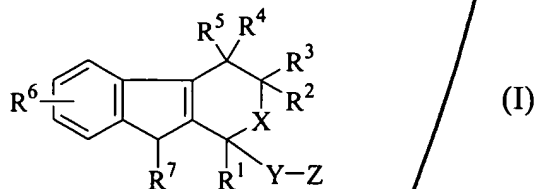


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to treat multiple myeloma comprising contacting mammalian cancer cells with an amount of a compound of formula (I):



wherein R¹ is lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, lower alkynyl, lower cycloalkyl, phenyl or benzyl, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are the same or different and are each hydrogen or lower alkyl; R⁶ is hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, benzyloxy, lower alkanoyloxy, nitro or halo, R⁷ is hydrogen, lower alkyl or lower alkenyl; X is oxy; Y is carbonyl or (C₁, C₃)alkyl(CO), wherein each alkyl is substituted with 0-2 (C₁-C₄) alkyl, and Z is hydroxy, lower alkoxy, amino, lower alkylamino, di(lower)alkylamino or phenylamino, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, effective to reduce the viability of cancerous bone marrow cells.

Claim 2 (Previously Canceled).

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammalian cancer cells are human cancer cells.
4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the compound of formula (I) is administered to a human cancer patient.

Claims 5-10 (Previously Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~31~~ 34, wherein the compound of formula (I) is 1-R(-) etodolac.

Claim 12 (Previously Canceled).

13. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the compound of formula (I) is administered orally.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~31~~ 11, wherein the 1-R(-) etodolac is administered orally.

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Claims 15-25 (Previously Canceled).

26. (Previously Amended) A method of treating multiple myeloma comprising administering to a human patient afflicted therewith an amount of 1-R(-) etodolac effective to reduce the viability of multiple myeloma cells, while maintaining the viability of normal bone marrow cells.

27. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the 1-R(-) etodolac is administered orally.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein a daily dosage of about 1000-5000 mg of 1-R(-) etodolac is administered.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 wherein the plasma concentration of etodolac is about 500-700 μ M.

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Serial Number: 09/589,476

Filing Date: June 7, 2000

Title: USE OF ETODOLAC IN THE TREATMENT OF CANCER

Page 4

Dkt: 103.021US1

Claims 30-33 (Previously Canceled).

34. (Previously Added) The method of claim 4, wherein the compound of formula (I) is etodolac.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula (I) is an the 1-(R) enantiomer.